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Reagan Military Advisers Studying Innovations With 8-Year Planning

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 1 — President-elect Ronald Reagan's transition team at the Defense Department has begun work on a substantial innovation in military planning, extending long-range projections for military spending from five years to eight years.

Members of the team said that the first such projection would appear early in the new administration, when Mr. Reagan sends to Capitol Hill his proposals for supplementing the current military budget and for amending the 1982 budget.

The Republican officials said the new administration wanted an eight-year projection, to give the new President an opportunity to lay out the first draft of his military strategy and provide consolidated guidance to the military services and other agencies within the defense establishment.

Time for Developing Weapons

In addition, they said, increasing numbers of complicated military programs, such as developing and producing new weapons, take longer than five years. Thus, they said, it would be logical to plan for eight years, which would, incidentally, coincide with two full Presidential terms.

The team members said there would be no definite figures on spending until they had completed a review of service needs and the final budget to be presented by the Carter Administration. That will be in early January.

An initial report from the defense transition team to the transition headquarters of the President-elect, a copy of

which was obtained by The New York Times, showed an emerging pattern of priorities. They included the following:

¶The Defense Department, to reach the President-elect's military objectives, must achieve "a substantial reduction in the time required to develop and procure weapon systems and facilities."

¶The question of the "absolute control" of the Director of Central Intelligence over intelligence budgets within the Defense Department "must be addressed at the outset of the new Administration." The report also questioned propriety of the Central Intelligence Agency's primary role in preparing net assessments dealing with military strategic issues. The transition team thus opened up the possibility of a renewed struggle between the Defense Department and the C.I.A. such as that of 1977, when President Carter ruled that the C.I.A. would be preeminent within the intelligence community.

¶"Special attention" is being given to removing or transferring not only political appointees within the department but also senior career people who hold prominent positions in the Carter Administration's defense establishment. The report said that existing regulations on ethics were being reviewed "to see how they might be changed to prevent conflict of interest without unduly penalizing the potential candidate" for office in the department.

The report said further that the team was preparing a study for the new Secretary of Defense on "potential international crises that may emerge in the next six months that could require immediate attention." United States policies in each of the world's regions and on arms control were also said to be under review.

The transition report showed that the

Pentagon team's writ ran beyond the Defense Department into coordination with the Department of Energy, which provides the military with nuclear weapons; the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which supervises civil defense, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, which lofts military satellites.

The team is headed by William R. Van Cleave, a political scientist from the University of Southern California and adviser to Mr. Reagan on national security.

Mock Horror From Democrats

The Reagan transition team's approach to the Pentagon budget, according to Pentagon insiders, has been markedly different from that of President Carter's representatives four years ago. The new team's fundamental question has been: "What do you need to fulfill your mission?" Mr. Carter's people, guided by his 1976 campaign promises, came in seeking ways to cut the budget.

Some Democratic officials, after four years of steady resistance to unchecked military spending, expressed mock horror, contending that military planners had pulled out and dusted off every conceivable program for the Reagan team to examine.

Members of the transition team maintained that asking for recommendations was not the same as giving blank checks, for they have also requested cost estimates and a sense of priority.

Members emphasized that the team could not make binding decisions and that despite speculation, no conclusions on the overall amount of military spending or on specific programs would be made until after a new Secretary of Defense had taken office.